Dr. and Mrs. H.A.B. Parpia, 4th Cross Gokulam, Mysore

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Saturday, September 5, 1959 - 10 A.M.

Dear JCW:

The enclosed letters will interest you and speak for themselves. A note is also in in reply to mine to Ted Weeks of Atlantic Monthly asking about possible articles by you which you said he mentioned to you. They say he's now in Europe and will reply on his return.

Tomorrow morning - Sunday - I am picking up all my luggage and trunks of books and papers from the Vasantha Mahal, and probably around 11 A.M. will get all this and myself on a bus for Bangalore - where I can be reached at the Shilton Hotel. I will report to you about incoming mail in reference to the work we have been doing, also if Estelle Holt's assignment for Mysore develops ... but I will send your letters to your mother to be passed to you personally, as I no longer trust certain of the Palace guard to get messages to you. I am going to Bangalore because my presence here currently would only result in questions being asked which if honestly explained would only start more Mysore rumors and be harmful to you - and I don't want this to happen, as you already have enough problems on your hands.

Anyway, having done the Belur and Halebid and other temples yesterday, or rather, Thursday, with the Philosophical conference group, I have certainly seen Mysore from top to bottom and will be able to write about it for years, no doubt, thanks to your hospitality and all the time we have been able to spend together in these months. It has been a rich experience. It is of course utterly silly to have seen everything BUT the Dasara - as you yourself said when I was down from Ooty in August and we were making plans....especially as it is now only a month off. But I shall make no effort to see it unless you yourself invite me and I can count on no repetition of the situation which confronted me when I came down from Ooty for the Conference - a date which we set last March, if you recall. Until that episode has been explained, I see no reason to risk trying to get the LIFE people or other correspondents down here for Dasara or any other coverage, as we discussed, as any such calculated and malicious treatment would only alienate them and reflect harmfully on you. I had hoped that my presence here would allow some good documentary coverage for you safely - and that I might be able to keep the people around you who have no public relations sense at their proper distance. It seems not, without your taking a firm hand.

Somebody asked me the other day why I didn't do a story called "The Captive Maharajah" - meaning, of course, the politicians. I pretended I didn't have the faintest idea what he meant. I have been told at least a dozen times during my stay here that none of the intelligent and self-respecting people of Mysore - or long-term visitors - will any longer make attempts to reach you and be friendly with you, exchanging ideas on mutual interests; and that this is due entirely to the returned mail, unanswered letters and invitations, and other constant rebuffs from the Palace. They do not know you as I do and they think these things can't possibly be happening without your knowledge. Nobody dares to tell you the truth - except me - so please accept it for what could be helpful to you. In our work together, you have seemed to recognize my value to you as a road to freedom - a person who can confidentially reach people for you whom you can't yourself reach in the present circumstances. Who else is there around you who understands your aspirations and recognizes your capabilities in a wider sphere? As for myself, I have showed my confidence in you by staying on here far beyond my original intention and risking grave financial difficulty by so doing, until we could see if the proposed office might be gotten under way. (NOW I think it should be ANYWHERE EXCEPT MYSORE - possibly Bangalore; but certainly India, and certainly with you as a key figure and advisor. Did you get a chance to discuss the Foundation matter with Karan Singh - in reference to his own Foundation set-up? Any other news re this from your attorney?). And what about the trip to New Delhi? I do not like to abandon the whole idea without further word from you, so I hope you will let me hear from you soon.

As ever, with deep regards,

Julie Medlock